

DETAILED ACTION

1. All claims are allowed over the prior art of record.

Response: 35 U.S.C. § 102 / 103

2. **Examiner Response:**

- 2.1 Applicants' amendments are sufficient to overcome the 35 U.S.C. § 103 rejection set-forth in Final Office Action dated 12/02/2009.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Otilia Gabor on 8/13/2010.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

- Page 1, after first heading, **replace** the first paragraph (which was previously inserted with amendment dated 7/28/2003) with the following paragraph:

The subject matter of this application is related to application Serial No. 10/627,690 (now U.S. Patent No. 7,080,331), filed concurrently herewith in the name of Andrzej WOZNIAK, entitled "METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR AUTOMATIC RECOGNITION OF SIMULATION CONFIGURATIONS OF AN INTEGRATED NETWORK". The present application also claims the priority of French Application No. FR 02/096690 filed July 30, 2002, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. The following is the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
4. As per claim 105 and 130, the most relevant prior-art of record is Schubert in view of Yalamanchili that discloses the claim as set-forth in Office Action dated 12/02/2009.

Art Unit: 2128

5. Regarding claim 105, the best prior art of record does not disclose or suggest "means for indirectly connecting components whose parts are not directly connectable, the means being connected head-to-tail between said components (which is disclosed by the Specification in ¶ 0122 as being two intermediate blocks).
6. Regarding claim 130, the best prior art of record does not disclose or suggest "inserting intermediate components connected head-to-tail between components whose parts are not directly connectable to indirectly connect said components".

The record is sufficiently clear and no further statement is necessary with respect to the reasons for allowance. See MPEP 1302.14.

7. All dependent claims are allowable by virtue of their dependency.

The art of record, either individually or in combination, fails to teach, suggest, or render obvious invention having the corresponding function that is claimed. In view of the foregoing, the Instant Claims of the present application are found to be patentable over the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

All pending claims are found allowable over prior-art.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David Silver whose telephone number is (571) 272-8634. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday, 10am to 6:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kamini Shah can be reached on 571-272-2279. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2128

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/David Silver/
Examiner, Art Unit 2128